

39. The process according to Claim 30, wherein the coated nickel hydroxide coated with stabilized cobalt(II) hydroxide is washed before a final drying step.

40. The process according to Claim 30, wherein the coated nickel hydroxide coated with stabilized cobalt(II) hydroxide is dried without exclusion of air.

41. The process according to Claim 34, wherein the carbonation is carried out by treating of a moist filter cake of the nickel hydroxide coated with cobalt(II) hydroxide, in carbon dioxide or carbon dioxide-containing air under CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressures of 0.01 to 2 bar, optionally with simultaneous drying in continuously operated spray dryers or spin flash dryers.

42. The coated nickel hydroxide of Claim 22, wherein a doped or non-doped nickel hydroxide is coated with stabilized cobalt(II) hydroxide.

43. An electrode material in a secondary battery comprising the nickel hydroxide of Claim 42.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, replace the title with the following title:

--NICKEL HYDROXIDE COATED WITH COBALTOUS HYDROXIDE--

On page 1, below the title, please add:

--This application is the National Stage Application of PCT/EP00/01667, which claims a priority from German Application 199 10 461.1, filed March 10, 1999.-

On page 1, below the line ending "March 10, 1999," add

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

On page 3, below line 15, please add:

--DESCRIPTION--

On page 8, below line 17, please add:

--The invention is further described in the following illustrative examples in which all parts and percentages are by weight unless otherwise indicated.--

On page 11, below line 2, please add the following:

--Although the present invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred versions thereof, other variations are possible. Therefore, the

spirit and scope of the appended claims should not be limited to the description of the versions contained therein.--

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Please add the following new Abstract, submitted herein on a separate page:

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--NICKEL HYDROXIDE COATED WITH COBALT HYDROXIDE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A<sup>5</sup> A coated nickel hydroxide for rechargeable batteries which is provided with a cobalt hydroxide coating which is stable to oxidation is described. The stability to oxidation is achieved by covering the surface of the cobalt hydroxide layer with anions of weak inorganic oxygen acids.--

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